tubewells are being closed. Proper medical treatment of affected persons by the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta has been arranged.

Loss to NCCF in supply of pulses under Public Distribution System

2209. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NCCF suffered losses worth about Rs. 40.00 lakhs and Rs. 55.00 lakhs during 1978-79 and 1979-80 respectively in the supply of pulses to the Fair Price Shops in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry was conducted to fix responsibility for these losses; and

(c) what action has been taken against those officers who were involved in these operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) National Cooperative Consumers Federation has reported that it did not participate in any Public Distribution System during 1979-80, but, during 1978-79 in order to arrest the rising trend of prices of pulses, which were ruling very high, at that time, NCCF at the instance of the Department of Civil Supplies and Delhi Administration, undertook the supply of pulses in printed polythene packs of 1 kg. each to the Fair Price Shops in Delhi. At the time of finalising the proposals of this business, it was envisaged that even if the NCCF sustained some loss in these transactions, its efforts should be to bring the pulses from the various procurement centres to Delhi to make them available through the Public Distribution System. The Delhi Administration made an attempt to compensate the loss in this business to the NCCF by agreeing to release family planning advertisements worth about Rs. 3.5 lakhs which were to be printed on the packs of the pulses. However, this did not materialise. The NCCF has reported that the Delhi Branch, who handled the entire ...iness, suffered a total loss of Rs. 37.98 lakhs during the year 1978-79. No separate account for this specific transaction was maintained by the Delhi Branch.

(b) and (c) The scheme was undertaken in public interest and at the time of formulating the scheme, some loss was anticipated.

Rationalization of quantity of containers ...tainers

2210. SHRI KISHOR MEHTA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 3362 given in the Rajya Sabha on 5th December, 1986 and to state:

(a) what are the usual pack sizes in those countries which have been following the metric system;

(b) whether the approved sizes for mineral water, jams, marmalades, jellies in Containers, Squashes Syrups Crushes; Fruit Juice and Vegetables are consistent with the metric system; and

(c) whether Government propose to rationalise the odd pack sizes in multiple of 25 for the smaller sizes and multiples of 250 in the larger sizes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) There is no uniformity in pack sizes for packaged commodities in the countries following the metric system. For example, in the Federal Republic of Germany, mineral water and fruit/vegetable juices are required to be packed in 100 ml, 200 ml. 250 ml., 330 ml, 500 ml, 700 ml, 1 litre, 1.5 litres, 2 litres, 3 litres, 4 litres and 5 litres. The same commodities are required to be packed in 180 ml; 550 ml, and 1240 ml if they are packed in mettalic cans.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The pack sizes are reviewed from time to time keeping in view the interests of consumers and industry, and developments in packaging.

Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977

2211. SHRI KISHOR MEHTA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the objectives of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977;

(b) what are the reasons that while restrictions on certain sizes are permitted other sizes of convenience of economy to the consumer are not permitted e.g. mineral water is allowed only in 630 ml. and not in multiples of 100 ml. or in multiples of 580 ml. or 1 litre to suit the consumer convenience; and

(c) what are the reasons that the odd sizes are still allowed to be packed in 165 ml., 240 ml., 425 ml. for juices and vegetables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The objective of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules 1977 is to ensure fair trading and price discipline in respect of packaged commodities.

(b) The pack sizes have been permitted after considering the interests of consumers, industry and developments in packaging.

(c) These sizes have been permitted for open top sanitary containers due to their viability in these sizes.

Limited Departmental Examination of AEs.

2212. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the 10 successful candidates of the Limited Departmental Examination for promotion to the post of Assistant Engineer (Electrical) in C.P.W.D. 1983. have since been promoted to the post of Assistant Engineer (Electricals);

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government are considering the names of Junior Engineers (Electrical) for filling up the vacancies of Assistant Engineers (Electrical) on seniority basis;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to consider the names of those 15 Junior Engineers (E) also, who qualified the written part of the Examination mentioned in part (a) above but whose names were dropped later on due to lack of vacancies, for filling up the vacancies of Assistant Engineers (Electrical) in seniority quota, referred to in part (b) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Out of the 10 candidates declared successful in the Limited Departmental Competitive Examination, 1983 for posts of Assistant Engineer (Electrical), 7 candidates have so far been appointed as Assistant Engineers (Electrical) against the quotas of posts required to be filled by such examination.

(b) and (c) The Central Public Works Department are considering filling up 14 vacancies of Assistant Engineer (Electrical), which fall in the quota of posts required to be filled up by promotion. No final decision in this regard has been taken yet.

(d) The quota of vacancies of Asstt. Engineer (Elect.) required to be filled up by Limited Departmental Competitive Examination, has already been filled up. The vacancies now available are required to be filled up by promotion. There is, therefore, no proposal to take more officers from the Limited Departmental Examination held in 1983.